



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/796,978

Applicant: KAWAHARA et al.

Filed: March 11, 2004

TC/AU: 2812

Examiner: C. Lee

Docket No.: 403001

Customer No.: 23548

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 23, 2006, please consider the following remarks.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.